

# *News Release*

## *From the City of Greenville*



**SUBJECT: Police Chief Simonowich To Retire**

**DATE: September 21, 2005**

**CONTACT: Wayne Bowers, City Manager, 329-4432**

Greenville Police Chief Joseph M. Simonowich announced today that he will retire on March 25, 2006. That day is also his 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of joining the Greenville Police Department. The Chief began his career as a police officer in 1971 and progressed through the ranks to become appointed Police Chief in December of 2000.

City Manager Wayne Bowers commended Chief Simonowich on his long and dedicated service to the Greenville Police Department. According to Bowers, "Chief Simonowich has provided steady leadership to the Greenville Police Department during a time of community growth and increased law enforcement work load. He has established an excellent cooperative relationship with other law enforcement agencies in the area. His leadership will be missed by the employees of the Police Department and by the citizens of Greenville."

Chief Simonowich looks back on his time with the City fondly. "One of the things I'm most proud of is helping the Department earn accreditation, and then be re-accredited twice. I've spent more than half my life working for the City," said Simonowich. "It's been good, but it's time to go." The Chief says he's not sure what he will do but, "I do know I have a lot of honey-do's I've been putting off for 33 years."

Bowers says he will conduct a nation-wide search to select a new Police Chief. That process, involving recruitment, interviews, background checks, and selection, usually takes approximately six months to complete. Chief Simonowich has agreed to assist the City Manager throughout the process and will be available to provide valuable assistance during this period of management transition.

The selection of a police chief is one of the most important responsibilities that a city manager performs. Every effort will be made to select a new Chief who can carry on the excellent tradition of community service established by Chief Simonowich and his predecessors at the Greenville Police Department.

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